

AUTHORIZING USE OF ROTUNDA AND EMANCIPATION HALL BY JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 36) to authorize the use of the rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the Capitol by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 36

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA AND EMANCIPATION HALL OF THE CAPITOL.

The rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol are authorized to be used on January 21, 2013, by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BORDER SHOOTOUT

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week, border protectors were patrolling near Roma, Texas, when they spotted drug smugglers trying to move narcotics into the United States. The agents found themselves under attack from the Mexican side when narco-terrorists unleashed gunfire from the other side of the Rio Grande River. The agents returned fire in self-defense. This sounds like a scene out of a western movie, but unfortunately this is real life on the Texas border.

The legal ports of entry may seem safe, but in the hinterlands it's the Wild West. Law enforcement is outmanned, outgunned, and outfinanced. We have troops protecting the borders of other countries; why don't they protect ours? But Texas is defending itself. It has to.

On Thursday, Texas DPS unveiled the second in its fleet of six gunboats that will now patrol the Rio Grande. Why does Texas have to send its own navy to defend the border of the United States? Because the Federal Govern-

ment refuses to do its job, and someone has to protect the homeland.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1900

THE SLAUGHTER CONTINUES IN SYRIA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. The slaughter continues in Syria.

Mr. Speaker, last week I visited the head of Mission at the Syrian Embassy and delivered letters that indicated that Mr. Assad, President Assad must go and that there must be an establishment of safe houses or safe places for women and children and that, at that time, the bodies of those deceased journalists should come out and, as well, that the Red Cross and International Red Cross should be allowed in.

Then there was a protesting and suggesting it was the rebels that weren't allowing the Red Cross in. But we've now heard from a journalist that was able to get out that those journalists were actually murdered. And now, today, we're reading that the Syrian authorities Friday blocked an officially sanctioned Red Cross convoy laden with food and medical supplies from entering a devastated neighborhood in Homs 1 day after the Army overwhelmed the rebel stronghold here after a months-long siege. No rebels, just a Syrian despot, the people who want to kill their own people.

Mr. Assad needs to go. We need to get women and children safe. We need to be able to get justice for the dead journalists, and now the world needs to rise up. I look forward to the Syrian resolution passing, but something must be done.

Mr. Assad, you have to go.

CONGRATULATING THE EDEN PRAIRIE BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to rise today to congratulate the Eden Prairie boys Eagles swimming team and diving team on winning the Minnesota State Championship recently. The Eden Prairie Eagles earned more than 100 points over their two closest competitors that tied for second place.

A key relay team of Aaron Greenberg, Maverick Hovey, Mike Solfelt and Bryce Boston also set a new State record in the 200-yard freestyle relay, and they also took home first place in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Mr. Speaker, these student athletes have absolutely seen that teamwork builds character, confidence, and self-worth. It also teaches our young people the importance of working together to

find common ground. Lessons such as playing competitively while also having respect for your opponent are lifelong and will make for absolutely strong, successful adults and future strong leaders.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the Eden Prairie boys swimming and diving team.

A CALL FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. I rise today to urge this body, the United States Congress, to join my constituents' call and meet my constituents' call for comprehensive immigration reform.

My constituents across the ideological spectrum, from those on the right, who decry the rule of law, the undermining of the state of law and the affront to our sovereignty, to those on the left, who decry the tearing apart of families and the injustices of the inhumane treatment of people in our immigration system, we are calling out to fix our broken immigration system and replace it with one that works.

There are upwards of 10 to 15 million people residing in this country illegally. We owe it to the citizens of our country, conservative, liberal, and everywhere in between, to make sure that there are close to zero people living in this country illegally and pass comprehensive immigration reform, as both President Bush and President Obama have called for on a bipartisan basis.

My constituents demand action now. I call upon Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DANIEL J. MABIN

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Daniel J. Mabin, World War II veteran, Korean War-era veteran, passed away this afternoon in Pennsylvania. Dan was a father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and he was the loving husband of his wife, Sheelagh. He was preceded in death by his beloved son Sean.

Dan was a member of what has been called "the Greatest Generation any society has ever produced," and he certainly earned that distinction by defending this country through two conflicts.

Sheelagh was his English war bride, whom he brought to America and settled in Levittown, Pennsylvania. When he left the service, Dan worked hard to support his growing family, often working several jobs.

Dan was someone who loved his country and cared deeply about its future. During his life, he served his community and worked to better the lives of